

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An enterprise directory service apparatus, comprising:
 - 2 a data store having a plurality of directory entries;
 - 3 a web server having an API coupled to said data store, for
 - 4 sending a query to said data store and receiving a directory
 - 5 entry; and
 - 6 a wrapper coupled to said API for accepting said query from a
 - 7 user application.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data store is a
- 2 relational database.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data store is an LDAP
- 2 data store.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said web server has a
- 2 plurality of API coupled to said data store, each API adapted to
- 3 send said query to said data store and receive one of said
- 4 plurality of directory entries.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a plurality of
2 wrappers each said wrapper coupled to one or more of said
3 plurality of API, and each said wrapper adapted to accept said
4 query from one of a plurality of user applications.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising an API locator on
2 said web server for selecting one of said plurality of API in
3 response to said query from said one of said plurality of said
4 user applications.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said API is adapted to
2 receive one of said plurality of directory entries from said data
3 store and send said one of said directory entries to said user
4 application.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said API is adapted to send
2 said one of said directory entries to said user application
3 through said wrapper.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said API is adapted to
2 receive said one of said plurality of directory entries in
3 response to said query.

1 10. A method of providing directory service to a user
2 application, said method comprising the steps of:

3 providing a data store having a plurality of directory entries;

4 providing a web server having an API coupled to said data store
5 and a wrapper coupled to said API;

6 receiving at said wrapper a query from a user application, and in
7 response thereto sending said query from said wrapper to said API
8 and thereafter to said data store; and

9 receiving at said API a directory entry from said data store in
10 response to said query, and sending said directory entry to said
11 user application.

12 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said data store is provided
13 as a relational database.

14 12. The method of claim 10, wherein said data store is provided
15 as a LDAP data store.

16 13. The method of claim 10, wherein said web server is provided
17 having a plurality of API coupled to said data store, each API
18 adapted to send said query to said data store and receive one of
19 said plurality of directory entries.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of providing an API locator coupled to said wrapper and said plurality of API for determining to which one of said plurality of API said wrapper should send said query.

15. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of providing a plurality of wrappers, each said wrapper coupled to one or more of said plurality of API, and each said wrapper adapted to accept said query from one of a plurality of user applications.

16. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving one of said plurality of directory entries from said data store and sending said one of said directory entries to said user application.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising sending said one of said directory entries to said user application through said wrapper.

1 18. A computer system for providing enterprise directory service,
2 said system comprising:

3 means for providing a data store having a plurality of directory
4 entries;

5 means for providing a web server having an API coupled to said
6 data store and a wrapper coupled to said API;

7 means for receiving at said wrapper a query from a user
8 application, and in response thereto sending said query from said
9 wrapper to said API and thereafter to said data store; and

10 means for receiving at said API a directory entry from said data
11 store in response to said query, and sending said directory entry
12 to said user application.

13 19. The system of claim 18, further comprising an API locator on
14 said web server for selecting said API in response to said query
15 from said user application.

1 20. A computer program product for instructing a processor to
2 provide enterprise directory service, said computer program
3 product comprising:

4 a computer recordable medium:

5 first program instruction means for providing a data store having
6 a plurality of directory entries;

7 second program instruction means for providing a web server
8 having an API coupled to said data store and a wrapper coupled to
9 said API;

10 third program instruction means for receiving at said wrapper a
11 query from a user application, and in response thereto sending
12 said query from said wrapper to said API and thereafter to said
13 data store; and

14 fourth program instruction means for receiving at said API a
15 directory entry from said data store in response to said query,
16 and sending said directory entry to said user application; and
17 wherein

18 all said program instruction means are recorded on said medium.

1 21. The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising
2 fifth program instruction means for providing a wrapper coupled
3 to said API for receiving said query from said user.